

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/212,393
Attorney Docket No. 981488

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 13 and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated November 19, 2004.

Allowable Claim Subject Matter:

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication in item 4 of the Action that claims 20 and 22 are allowable.

Applicant also gratefully acknowledges the indication in item 3 of the Action that claims 2, 4, 6 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form to include the features of their respective base and intervening claims. As such, claims 2 and 13 have been rewritten into independent form to include the features of base claims 1 and 12, respectively. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 2 and 13 are now allowable. In addition, it is believed that claims 4 and 6 are also allowable by their respective dependency on allowable claim 2.

35 U.S.C. '112, First Paragraph Rejection:

Claims 1-19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, since the specification as originally filed does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

More specifically, the Examiner asserts on page 2 of the Action:

Because the specification, while being enabling for a ROM or RAM in a printer controller of a printer, see page 22, lines 6-15 of the written specification, does not reasonably provide enablement for transferring printer data without having an exclusive memory unit for storing the printer data in the controller. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

However, each of the independent claims 1, 11, 12 and 21 have been amended to correspond more closely with the explicit language contained in the specification regarding the feature that the printer is without, or does not have, a storage unit for storing the printing data when printing is resumed after an error has occurred in the printer.

That is, the specification includes the following recitation on page 23, "the printer controller of the present invention can minimize page skip and double printing when printing is resumed after an error occurred in a printer without providing a storage means for storing printing data, and can avoid the deterioration of the performance of the printer and can assure the printed data."

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has failed to fully appreciate that the printer controller 20, according to the present invention, does not include an exclusive memory unit for

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/212,393
Attorney Docket No. 981488

storing the printer data and instead includes a receiving buffer 21a, a preset data storage unit 23 for storing information of the printer connected to the printer controller 20 and a plurality of analyzing units 22a – 22n corresponding to the different kinds of printers.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that any person skill in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, would be enable to make and/or use the present claimed invention of claims 1-19 and 21, as amended, based on the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner maintains the following rejection:

claims 1, 3, 5, 7-12 and 14-18 stand rejected under 35 USC '102(e) as being anticipated by Mizutani (of record).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In response to Applicant's position that Mizutani fails to include the feature of amended claims 1, 11, 12, 19 and 21, concerning the data is transferred to a printer without having an exclusive memory unit for storing the printing data in the controller, the Examiner disagrees and takes the following position.

First, the Examiner stated that he has searched the written specification and has not found the new limitation added by amendment. Furthermore, page 22, lines 6-15 of the applicant's specification suggests that a ROM or RAM is used with the print controller. Hence, the memory is with the printer controller. This same arrangement is found in Fig. 3a of Mizutani. The Examiner states that Applicant's written specification seems to suggest the same features as that set out in Fig. 3a of the present invention. The Examiner contends that the new limitation is not supported in the specification and that without patentable weight given to this limitation, the claims in its entirety are met by Mizutani.¹

However, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 11, 12 and 21, as amended, now call for the feature that the printer is without, or does not have, a storage unit for storing the printing data when printing is resumed after an error has occurred in the printer.

Moreover, it is submitted that such feature is clearly supported by the specification as originally filed. That is, the specification includes the following recitation on page 23, "the printer controller of the present invention can minimize page skip and double printing when printing is resumed after an error occurred in a printer without providing a storage means for storing printing data, and can avoid the deterioration of the performance of the printer and can assure the printed data."

As such, it is submitted that the Examiner must properly consider this claimed feature by giving it patentable weight.

Further, it is submitted that Mizutani fails to disclose or fairly suggest this feature concerning the printer is without, or does not have, a storage unit for storing the printing data

¹ Please see, item 5 of the Action.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/212,393
Attorney Docket No. 981488

when printing is resumed after an error has occurred in the printer, as now called for in each of the independent claims 1, 11, 12 and 21, since according to lines 1-4, column 7 of Mizutani, "the print control device 3b is a device for storing the received print data into a storage device installed in the printing apparatus 3, and managing the stored print data for each print job."

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, all pending claims are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

By:


Thomas E. Brown
Reg. No.: 44,450
Attorney for Applicant
Tel: (202) 822-1100
Fax: (202) 822-1111